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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Report of the Drafting Committee

1. At its 1693rd meeting, on 28 May 1992, the Trusteeship Council appointed a drafting committee composed of the representatives of China, France, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to prepare draft conclusions and recommendations of the Trusteeship Council at its fifty-ninth session to be included in its report to the Security Council.

2. The drafting committee held one meeting on 29 May, and decided to forward the draft conclusions and recommendations set out in the annex to the present report to the Council for its consideration.

Annex

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Political advancement

1. The Trusteeship Council takes note of its resolution 2183 (LIII) of 28 May 1986, and of its subsequent reports to the Security Council.

2. The Trusteeship Council takes note of the adoption on 22 December 1990, by the Security Council, as proposed by all members of the Trusteeship Council, of resolution 683 (1990), in which the Security Council determined, in the light of the entry into force of the new status agreements for the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and the Northern Mariana Islands, that the objectives of the Trusteeship Agreement a/ had been fully attained, and that the applicability of the Trusteeship Agreement had terminated with respect to those entities. In the same resolution, the Security Council also expressed its hope that the people of Palau would be able in due course to complete the process of freely exercising their right to self-determination.

3. The Trusteeship Council notes the statement by the Minister of State of Palau on 26 May that the leadership of Palau desires an end to the trusteeship at an early date and, to that end, has decided on a further round of consultations with the Palauan electorate (T/PV.1691). The Trusteeship Council notes also that the Administering Authority, in its statements to the fifty-ninth session of the Council, has reiterated its firm support for an early resolution of the future political status of Palau.

4. The Trusteeship Council expresses the hope that the people of Palau will soon be able to complete the process of exercising freely their right to self-determination, and that it will be possible to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement in the very near future.

5. The Trusteeship Council expresses its appreciation for the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Palau, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 1992, contained in document T/1964, which it has approved in resolution 2195 (LIX) of 29 May 1992.

B. Economic, social and educational advancement

6. The Trusteeship Council notes that the people of the Trust Territory, in the exercise of their right to self-government as set out in Article 76 b of the Charter of the United Nations, have elected to assume full responsibility for administration in the economic, social and educational fields.

7. The Trusteeship Council notes the concerns expressed by the Palauan leadership regarding the implementation of Secretary's Order 3142. It shares the view expressed by the United Nations Visiting Mission that there is a need for a continuing process of consultation and advice on how best to satisfy the procedures required under the Order. It is also hopeful that over time the need for the Order, or at any rate for the activation of its suspension provisions, will be diminished, and welcomes in this context the statement made by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to the Trusteeship Council on 27 May (T/PV.1692).

8. The Trusteeship Council notes the concerns of the Government and people of Palau, as expressed to the United Nations Visiting Mission, regarding the level of economic development and social progress, and their desire for improvements in these areas. It shares the view of the United Nations Visiting Mission that continued efforts are needed in this regard, especially in the outlying states of Palau. At the same time, the Trusteeship Council welcomes the improvements reported in the tourism and fisheries sectors, while noting the problems of illegal fishing in Palauan waters and the need to ensure that the development of the tourist industry will take into account the importance of preserving the natural environment of Palau. It welcomes also improvements in the public health sector. It expresses the hope that further progress will continue to be made in these and other fields. It also notes the assurances by the Administering Authority that it will continue to do what it can to assist the people of the Territory to attain greater economic self-sufficiency through responsible economic development.

C. General

9. The Trusteeship Council notes with satisfaction the assurances given by the Administering Authority that it will continue to fulfil its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations and under the Trusteeship Agreement.

10. The Trusteeship Council takes note of the continued assurances by the Administering Authority that the United States of America has no plans to establish military bases in Palau.

Notes

a/ Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1957.VI.A.1).